



city of  
**greenville**

# News Release

## **City Announces Lineups for Downtown Event Series**

*Local bands invited to compete in Gimme the Gig competition*

The City of Greenville kicks off its Downtown Event Series next week with the season opening nights of Piedmont Natural Gas Downtown Alive presented by Clemson MBA and Greenville Heritage Main Street Fridays presented by Pepsi. The free weekly events return to NOMA Square, offering a season filled with live musical entertainment performed by local and regional touring bands, special events and children's activities.

Piedmont Natural Gas Downtown Alive presented by Clemson MBA will kick off the first event of the season on March 19. The event series serves as the single largest fundraiser for the Metropolitan Arts Council, a local organization providing support and other vital services to individual artists, arts organizations and arts education programs. During its 24-week season, musical entertainment include The Shack Band, Dangermuffin, Benton Blount, Retro Vertigo, The Sound Committee and The Swingin' Richards.

"This is the sixth consecutive year Piedmont Natural Gas has partnered with Downtown Alive," said Michael Durham, community relations manager for Piedmont Natural Gas. "We're pleased to support these talented musicians and to celebrate the spirit of the city with the Greenville community. Piedmont Natural Gas is looking forward to another summer of great music and great times in downtown Greenville."

In addition, this season's Piedmont Natural Gas Downtown Alive will feature a Gimme the Gig contest. Local bands will have the opportunity to submit links to their music online, allowing fans to cast a vote for their favorite band. The band receiving the largest number of votes will ultimately earn a paid gig at the Piedmont Natural Gas Downtown Alive on August 27. Complete details will be released prior to the contest's start date in May.

Greenville Heritage Main Street Fridays presented by Pepsi will debut March 20 at NOMA Square. The family-friendly 28-week event will feature jazz, blues and beach music each week on the Larkin's Restaurants Stage. Highlighted monthly performances include Hot as a Pepper, Wanda Johnson, 5th and York, Mac Arnold and Plate Full O'Blues and Southern Crescent. In addition, Greenville Heritage Main Street Fridays will feature the Century BMW Kids' Zone, including inflatables and fun-filled activities for children, such as face painting and arts and crafts. Unlimited children's ride wristbands will be available to purchase for \$12.

"Greenville Heritage FCU is proud to partner with the City of Greenville as the title sponsor of the Main Street Fridays concert series again this year," said Alan Berry, president/CEO of Greenville Heritage FCU. "Serving as the title sponsor of the City of Greenville's premier live music event enables us to be an integral part of enriching our community. We look forward to 28

wonderful evenings of live music and family fun at NOMA Square on the Hyatt stage and hope many Upstate residents will join us as we enjoy the best the City has to offer in family entertainment.”

Additional Downtown Event Series event partners include Budweiser, the Hyatt Regency Greenville, Roost, Entercom, Penske, I Heart Media & MY 102.5, WYFF 4, Fete, the Greenville Journal, Ben Arnold Beverage Company, South Carolina BLUE, Bath Fitter, CPI Security and Oobe.

For a complete entertainment lineup, visit the City’s website at [events.greenvillesc.gov](http://events.greenvillesc.gov) or follow the events at [facebook.com/downtownalive](https://facebook.com/downtownalive) and [facebook.com/mainstreetfridays](https://facebook.com/mainstreetfridays) and [twitter.com/gvilleevents](https://twitter.com/gvilleevents).